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The Villa Park Evergreen Co.

520 South Princeton Ave Villa Park·Illinois.

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Spring 1949

Yosemite National Park

California



The Grizzly Giant

The oldest living Tree * Estimated age: 3000 years

Pfitzer Juniper.



This is one of the best low growing Junipers. Easy to transplant and practically free from disease and pests. Used in foundation plantings, specimen and low hedges. Withstands city conditions and tolerates shade to some extent. Color of foliage is a light olive green. The Pfitzer Juniper is very hardy and can easily be trimmed.

We offer twice transplanted trees, about 8-10 inches, ready to grow fast.

Each: 55¢ ----- 2 for only \$1.00 Postpaid.

Andorra Juniper.



The Andorra Juniper is a new variety of spreading Junipers which has become quite popular. Summer and spring color is bright green. In fall and winter a purple hue spreads all over the plant. Can be used in foundation plantings, as a border plant or where a low planting is desired. Very hardy.

We offer field grown, twice transplanted trees, about 8-10 inches.

Each: 55¢ ----- 2 for only \$1.00.



Meyers Juniper.

There are a few dwarf, irregular growing evergreens which are used as curious features, and the Meyers Juniper is one of the most attractive of them all. It is of upright form with many branches of various lengths, which give it an unusual irregular and zigzagged outline. The dense bluish-green foliage has a lustrous sheen that is decidedly different and in autumn, frequently assumes a pink tone.

We offer twice transplanted trees, about 8 inches high.

Each: 55¢ --- 2 for only \$1.00 Postpaid.



Morden's Pink.

Morden's Pink (Lythrum), is one of the most beautiful new flowers. It grows 2-3 feet high and blooms continuously from June until early fall. Flowers are of a rich deep pink. It is such an attractive flower that utter strangers passing by have asked what the brilliant flowers were. Do not miss this novelty for your garden.

We offer strong field grown plants, ready to bloom the first season.

Each: 40¢ --- 3 for only \$1.00 Postpaid.

Our Colorado Blue Spruce Offer

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The Color of the Colorado Blue Spruce.

The color of the Colorado Blue Spruce is similar to the bloom or sheen on a grape or plum. It is a powdery substance that can be wiped off the needles. This accounts for the trees losing color after a hard winter of snow and ice. The new growth again shows the blue color. It must be remembered that only a certain percentage will grow

into blue Shiners. In young trees the color is less distinct but should get more pronounced as they grow older. Because of this we cannot guaranty the ultimate color and your order is only accepted with this understanding. We mention these facts so that our customers will not be disappointed upon delivery of the trees.

We offer:

Twice transplanted trees.
6 years old, bushy.
Average Height 12 inches.

2 for only \$ 1.00
Postpaid.

We urge

to order as soon as possible.
Last spring we were unable
to fill several hundred orders.

Order
Now.



Dwarf Iris Collection.

No garden is complete without this most satisfactory of garden plants. Very floriferous and with a wide range of colors they combine especially well with other perennials in beds or borders, along fences, walls or pathways.

Spring Skies----Sky Blue
Aurea-----Yellow
Cyanea-----Purple
The Bride-----White

All 4 only 50¢ Postpaid.

4 Pyramidal Arbor Vitae.

This is one of the most popular evergreens, of compact, narrow growth. Excellent for tall accent or to emphasize height or contrast. Often planted in pairs at entrance or gates. It attains a height of about 10 feet, seldom more than 3 feet at the base. Also used as a windbreak or hedge. Very hardy.



Twice transplanted.
About 12 inches high.

2 for only \$ 1.00.

Canadian Hemlock.

The Hemlock is noted for its gracefulness and beauty of its foliage. The color is a rich green on the upper surface of the needles and silvery below. Hemlock does not mind shade and therefore does well on the northside of the house. Used as a garden background it enhances the beauty even of the showiest blooms.



Twice transplanted trees
About 12 inches high.

2 for only \$ 1.00.

Special

Here is indeed a Special Offer of great value. Japanese Upright Yew have been and still are very scarce as no seed has been available for almost 10 years. And the best upright Yews can only be grown from seed. We were very fortunate to obtain a supply of seedgrown Upright Yew at reasonable prices. We will grow a certain amount for our own nursery. However we like to have our customers share in this great value. We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity to obtain some of these fine seedgrown Upright Japanese Yew at a very reasonable price.



Upright Japanese Yew

One of the finest evergreens is the Japanese Upright Yew. Its form of growth is upright pyramidal. Foliage is shiny, waxy green. In fall it bears scarlet fruit. It stands various planting conditions, including shade. Plant a Yew and the whole neighborhood will admire it with you.

Here is our Special Offer:

Japanese Upright Yew 12 inches
Twice transplanted
Each: 85¢--2 for \$ 1.60 Postpaid.

Dwarf Mugho Pine.

Here is some more good news. The real dwarf Mugho Pine is available again. The seed came from the mountains of Middle Europe, the home of the Mugho Pine. There is no better dwarf evergreen than the Mugho Pine. A hardy evergreen of distinctly round and compact form.

3 year strong seedlings-- 6-8 inches.



| | |
|----------|----------|
| 10----- | \$ 1.50 |
| 25----- | \$ 3.50 |
| 50----- | \$ 6.00 |
| 100----- | \$ 11.00 |

Globe Arbor Vitae.

The Globe Arbor Vitae is one of the hardest Arbor Vitae. It forms a natural globe which requires no trimming. Excellent for foreground plantings, foundation groups or for the side of entrance. Can also be used for a low hedge. Foliage is of rich green and of lace like appearance.

8-10 inches-- 2 for \$ 1.00 Postpaid.



A Invitation.

If you live near Chicago, Illinois we extend a hearty invitation to visit our Salesground and Nursery. We are located on Highway U.S.30, also known as Roosevelt Road. About 20 miles west of Chicago, or about 4 miles west of Wheaton. You are always welcome.



Villa Park
898 R



Silver Juniper.

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One of the most beautiful evergreens is the Silver Juniper. This tree grows into a tall narrow compact column. It has the same silvery blue color as the Colorado Blue Spruce, contrasting pleasantly with other evergreens. It combines hardiness with beauty. Fine for the foundation, at doorsteps or for the formal garden. Very hardy.

Strong little trees
about 9 inches tall

3 for \$1.00 Postpaid.

Swedish Juniper.

This is one of the hardiest of the columnar Junipers. Foliage is of bluish green color, close growing prickly needles and numerous upright growing stems. It resembles somewhat the Irish Juniper. Its landscape uses are the same as of the Irish Juniper. Grows about 6-8 feet high. A very pleasing evergreen.

Strong healthy trees
About 10-12 inches high.

2 for \$ 1.00 Postpaid.

Irish Juniper.

The Irish Juniper is one of the most popular erect-growing evergreens, forming a highly decorative slender column. The foliage is of blue-green color. No better evergreen can be found where space is at a premium, and where regularity and neatness is desired. A very slender narrow type has been developed in the last few years which is superior to the ordinary Irish Juniper. It is this new type we offer.



We offer:

Strong trees

Ready to grow fast

About 12 inches high

Each: 60¢

2---\$ 1.10

3---\$ 1.50

White Spruce.

The White Spruce is closely related to the Black Hills Spruce. It grows somewhat faster. Its form of growth is symmetrical and forms a beautiful silhouette against the sky. Very hardy.

Black Hills Spruce.

No finer Spruce can be found than the Black Hills Spruce. Grows very compact and rather slow. Fine for lawn specimen. The ideal Christmas tree. Color is of a rich bluish-green. Very hardy.

We offer:

Sturdy trees

9-12 inches

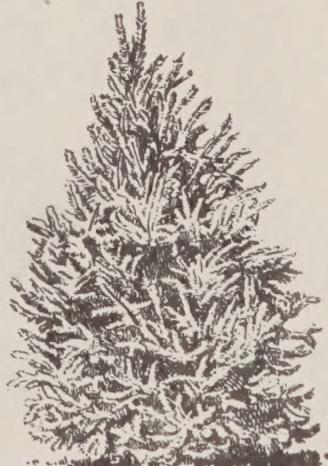
3 for \$ 1.00.

We offer:

Strong trees

12-15 inches

2 for \$ 1.00



HARDY FLOWERING SHRUBS

Lend Distinction and Value to Your Grounds



Golden Bells (Forsythia spectabilis).

Blossoming at the first blush of spring the Goldenbells, with their joyous, clear yellow bells, borne in great profusion are like so much sunshine. Indeed no shrub gives a richer display of pure yellow than do the Forsythia. Flowers appear before leaves.. Plants offered are about 2 feet high.



Each: 65¢ ----- 2 for only \$ 1.10 Postpaid.

Hydrangea Peegee. (Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora)

A superb shrub in any planting. The enormous panicles appear in August and last until November and December. The flowers are large, greenish white turning shades of pink, lilac and bronze. Fine for winter bouquets. It is considered the grandest of all flowering shrubs. Plants offered are about 2 feet high.



Each: 65¢ ----- 2 for only \$ 1.10 postpaid.

Flowering Almond (Prunus glandulosa).

A very hardy, desirable shrub. It bears a profusion of pinkish-white, double flowers in June. The flowers are closely set on twigs, before the leaves appear in spring. The flowering Almond is a small shrub, reaching a height of about 3 feet.

We offer strong plants about 2 feet high.



Each: 65¢ ----- 2 for only \$ 1.10 Postpaid.

Snow Hill Hydrangea (Hydrangea arborescens).

The large flowers in June are snow white and produced in great abundance. Especially valuable because they come when blooms are scarce. Worthy of a place in any planting and may be used either in foundation or border planting. Plants offered are 2 feet high. Heavy.



Each: 65¢ ----- 2 for only \$ 1.10 Postpaid.

"Minnesota Snowflake". Plant Patent No: 538.

Here is a new shrub, words can hardly describe its breath taking beauty. A new, very hardy and double Mock Orange. A mass of large, snow-white flowers practically covers this shapely graceful plant. Every blossom is double and exceptionally fragrant. "Minnesota Snowflake" is unusual symmetrical, rugged, fast growing and very hardy. The glossy foliage is of dark green color.

We offer field grown plants, about 2 feet high.



Each: \$ 1.25 postpaid.





The Villa Park Evergreen News

Published by
THE VILLA PARK EVERGREEN CO.

The Evolution of Evergreens.

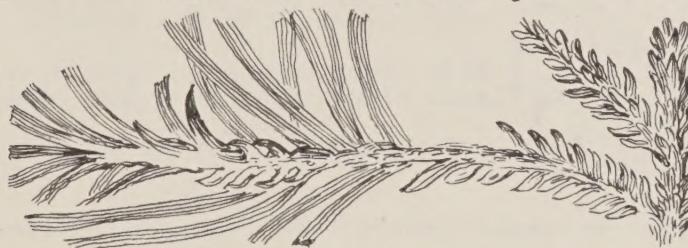
At what period the evergreens entered in the picture of evolution of plant life is not clearly established. However, geologists and botanists have in their researches in the past lifted the veil of obscurity to some extent. Although much has to be learned yet, there have been ever changing geological formations and climatic conditions in the more than 2 billion years of the existence of the earth. Periods, not measured in a few generations of man-life, but in millions of years.

Paleobotanists, scientists who study fossil plants, tell us that about 300 million years ago the first evergreens made their appearance. Once established, climatic conditions became so favorable that the larger part of the earth was covered with evergreens in addition to the Gingkoes and Cycads. Saurians, the great reptiles were roaming among the Cordaites, Walchias and Voltzias, the ancestors of the oldest types of living trees, the evergreens. The formation of our coal beds was then almost completed. This period in the geological history of the earth is called the Mesozoic era. In time many species of evergreens developed; many more than are living today.



A reconstructed branch of a Cordaites.
A distant ancestor of evergreens.

How can the scientist know this? By examining the different layers of rock and by study of fossil plants—either a piece of wood, a leaf, a flower, or a cone imbedded in stone, clay or mud, each leaving its telling tale in the library of nature.



Branch of a Voltzia
A now extinct prehistoric evergreen.

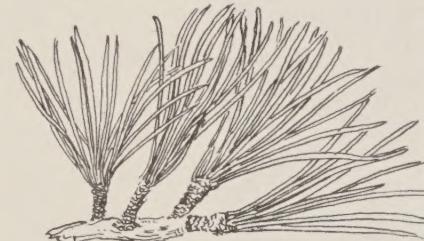
What then were the first evergreens? As said before the picture is not complete. Many facts have to be added, scientific proofs have to be established, where at present there is only guesswork. But even so the Paleobotanists have given us a definite outline for the picture of early evergreens, however dim it is.

So it appears that the first typical evergreens were pine-like or yew-like trees. Which ones developed first is still to be established. From what we know at present, it seems that the pine-like trees came first.

The most outstanding members of this group were the Araucarias, represented today by the Kauris of Australia and the Norfolk Pine. Next came the Sequoias or Bigtrees, two species still growing in California, and the Bald Cypress. Newer conceptions maintain that these two trees are closely related. Still later there developed a group of trees now classified as the Cupressaceae, comprising all the Junipers, Arbor Vitae, Retinosporas and Cypress. The main stem of these pine-like trees was formed by Firs, Spruces, Larch, Tammaracks and the true Cedars.

The yew-like trees, which are now arranged as Taxaceae, divided themselves in 2 branches. First the Podocapea which have a much broader and fleshier leaf as the true Yew. Only the Podocarps of Australia and New Zealand are the surviving members of this branch. Secondly, we have the Taxae with narrow, lance-like leaf of the Yew and the rare Nutmegs of Florida and California. Here again many types have not survived the times.

In the slow process of evolution, requiring many millions of years, the prehistoric evergreens finally assumed the shape and characteristics as we know them today. For instance, we find that some of the Pines of old were quite different than the Pines of today. Some Pines had needlebundles of 25 whereas today, not more than 5 needles are found in a bundle and in one of the species only one needle. (Single Leaf Pine)



Restoration of a twig of a Cretaceous Pine.
Note the large number of needles in a bundle.

The Bigtrees and Redwoods in time past covered many parts of the earth, and are now making their last stand in California. Once there were many species of these trees, now only 2 are left. However recently one other species was discovered in China, the so called Dawn Sequoia. Botanists believe this to be the ancestor of our Bigtrees.

Some of our Bigtrees are more than 3000 years old. What stories the rustle of their leaves could tell us. Some of these trees were living when the Egyptians build the pyramids; when Ceasar ruled Rome; they saw the beginning of Christianity; they saw the Dark Age come and go and they were there when the Pilgrims landed on our shore; indeed—the whole written history of mankind, and they are still living and will live for many, many generations to come. Or let us think of the Bald Cypress of Tule in Mexico with an estimated life of more than 5000 years.

Fossil of a Sequoia
From Tertiary deposits
of Alaska.



Although still shrouded in mystery, this hasty glance into the history of evergreens shows us that many years were needed for nature to develop them to their present stage. Some of the species disappeared in this evolution to their perfection. But there are still more than 500 different kinds of evergreens. A fact which should show us all that evergreens are a little more than just Pines or Christmas trees.



The Ponderosa Pine is also known as the Western Yellow Pine. The word Ponderosa means heavy, referring to the heavy wood. Indeed the Ponderosa Pine embodies beauty of strength and massiveness, producing a rugged effect in the landscape. It is invaluable for solid background planting or as large specimen on the lawn. Wherever planted the Ponderosa Pine produces a striking effect. Its needles are longer than of any other pine, of a rich deep green, which makes it readily outstanding from any other Pine. Its form of growth is usually pyramidal. It is a very hardy tree and of rapid growth.

We offer twice transplanted trees with an average height of 12-15 inches.

2 for only \$ 1.00 Postpaid.

Douglas Fir.

The Douglas Fir is a very handsome tree. Its appearance resembles not only strength but also gracefulness. Its lower branches will persist sweeping almost the ground. This splendid tree assumes a pyramidal form, making a fine lawn specimen. Some of the Douglas Firs have the same bluish tint as the Colorado Blue Spruce. It is a rapid grower and will thrive in almost any situation. It stands city conditions to a certain degree, it also tolerates shade. The Douglas Fir can easily be pruned to a wide, large hedge. It makes a fine Christmas tree.

We offer strong fieldgrown trees with an average height of about 12-15 inch.

2 for only \$ 1.00 Postpaid.



Norway Spruce.

This is one of the fastest growing spruces. A strong upright grower that soon develops into a large, bushy, stately tree. Used for specimens, windbreaks, hedges, also for tubs or formal plantings. One of the best evergreens for the Living Christmas Tree. The Norway Spruce can also be used as a table tree or for window boxes.

The trees we offer are especially sturdy, twice transplanted and about 12 inches high.

2 for only \$ 1.00 postpaid.

Planting Directions



Pail of muddy water to cover the roots.



Tree planted right, it will live.



Tree planted too low, it will die.

The fine rootlets of the young trees are very delicate and may be seriously injured even by a few minutes exposure to the sun or drying winds. It is therefore best to keep the trees in an ordinary pail with enough muddy water to cover the roots. Trees should not be kept lying on the ground while the hole is being dug.

The hole should be made large enough to receive the roots without cramping them. The roots are inserted in the hole, spread out and loose soil tamped with the hands. The tree should be set upright and planted to the same depth at which it grew in the nursery. This depth is indicated by a ring of light bark around the tree at ground level.

A test of proper planting is to give each tree a slight tug after setting. If the tree pulls up, it is not properly set. Failure to set the tree firmly and at the right depth usually results in stunting or death.

After the tree is planted it should be watered and judicious watering should be done at least once each week, especially during the first year. Before the ground freezes solidly, an especially good watering should be given. This freezes the roots wet and prevents the drying out of the foliage. Even during the winter, if there is no snow on the ground, an occasional watering should be given. If the Spring is dry, watering should be kept up.

After the ground is frozen, newly planted evergreens should receive a heavy mulch of either dead leaves or straw, 8-10 inches deep. A mulch of this kind holds the frost in check and prevents heaving out, due to alternating freezing and thawing. Weight the mulch down with dirt or boards to prevent the wind from blowing it off during winter.



Tree planted too high, it will die.



Roots are cramped, tree will die.



Cultivate often, it preserves moisture.

To Our Friends Old and New

Our evergreens can be successfully transplanted in spring and in fall. The spring planting season starts early in April and lasts until the middle of June. Fall planting starts early in September and lasts until the ground freezes solidly.

Our trees are shipped with the roots packed in damp moss and wrapped in waterproof paper. Shipment will be made in proper time for planting.

If any stock proves untrue to name it will either be exchanged or purchase price will be returned. However in no case will we be responsible for any sum greater than the original purchase price.

We guarantee our trees free from disease and in best growing condition. We do not give any guarantee as to the growth of the stock. Climatic condition, your care and other factors over which we have no control will determine your success in growing any plant or tree.

No order accepted under one Dollar and please do not send stamps.

We will pay all shipping charges except where noted otherwise.

No complaint is entertained unless made within five days after receipt of trees.

Our catalogs contain detailed planting instructions, which we kindly ask you to follow carefully.

It is understood and agreed between the customer and ourselves that the purchasers order and our acknowledgment of its receipt, shall constitute a mutual acceptance of all terms and conditions mentioned in our catalog.